

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Vice-Chairman Ralph Heinert on March 23, 2007
at 3:30 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 831, 3/21/2007
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 831

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:04 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 831, Revise water use laws.

EXHIBIT (nah62a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:53 Lorents Grosfield

00:23:25 Rep. Kevin Furey, East Missoula, Montana

00:24:05 John Dunlap, Builder and Developer, Bozeman, Montana

00:30:19 Deborah Wallberg, Bozeman, Montana

00:32:24 Laura Ziemer, Trout Unlimited

EXHIBIT (nah62a02)

00:36:43 Holly Franz, Pacific Power and Light Montana

EXHIBIT (nah62a03)

00:40:29 Walt Sales, Association of Gallatin Area Irrigators

EXHIBIT (nah62a04)

00:44:27 Jim Potts, HKM Engineering, Bozeman, Montana

00:46:05 Hertha Lund, Four Corners Area

00:50:09 Vivian Drake, Hydrogeological Engineer, Helena, Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

00:50:57 Terry Lindsay, Lindsay Drilling

EXHIBIT (nah62a05)

00:54:58 Susan Brown

EXHIBIT (nah62a06)

01:01:44 Arvid Hiller, Mountain Water Company, Missoula, Montana

EXHIBIT (nah62a07)

01:05:03 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

EXHIBIT (nah62a08)

01:12:47 John Bloomquist, Montana Stockgrowers' Association

01:21:05 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:24:02 Dave Schmidt, Water Right Solutions, Incorporated

EXHIBIT (nah62a09)

01:24:55 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Realtors

EXHIBIT (nah62a10)

01:26:18 Clayton Fiscus, Billings, Montana

EXHIBIT (nah62a11)

01:27:15 Russ McElyea, Moon Light Basin

01:27:54 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Rights Association

01:28:21 Bob Lane, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

EXHIBIT (nah62a12)

01:28:44 Don MacIntyre, Utility Solutions

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a13\)](#)

01:29:11 Tim Ravndal, Montana

01:29:25 Jay Skoog, American Council of Engineering Companies

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a14\)](#)

01:29:45 Jacqueline Lenmark, Montana Water Well Drillers Assoc

01:29:55 Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association

01:30:05 Collin Bangs, Missoula Montana

01:30:19 Fred Rogers, Billings, Montana Yellowstone County
Planning Board

01:30:46 Dave Brown, Billings, Montana

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a15\)](#)

01:31:14 Dave Schuett, DVM

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a16\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

01:31:47 Thomas Patton, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

01:32:11 John Vincent, Gallatin Gateway, Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:45 Rep. Van Dyk

01:34:52 Ms. Ziemer

01:36:04 Rep. Barrett

01:36:20 Mr. Schuett

01:36:58 Rep. Erickson

01:37:24 Ms. Lund

01:39:52 Rep. Vincent

01:40:31 Mr. Patton

01:43:52 Rep. Lambert

01:44:31 Mr. Schuett

01:45:52 Rep. Hendrick

01:46:29 Mr. Hiller

01:47:09 Rep. Ankney

01:47:46 Mr. Schuett

01:48:03 Krista Evans

01:48:33 Rep. Pomnichowski

01:48:48 Bonnie Lovelace, Department of Environmental Quality

01:50:21 Rep. Mendenhall

01:50:53 Mr. Youngberg

01:51:54 Rep. Mendenhall

01:52:01 Mr. McElyea

01:53:58 Rep. Cohenour

01:54:26 Rep. Barrett

01:54:51 Mr. Bloomquist

01:55:52 Rep. Hands

01:56:03 Mr. Tubbs

01:57:19 Rep. Cohenour

01:57:48 Rep. Van Dyk

Closing by Sponsor:

01:58:19 Rep. McNutt

Additional Exhibits:

Document pertaining to HB 831; Hearing 03/23/07

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a17\)](#)

Document pertaining to HB 831; Hearing 03/23/07

[EXHIBIT\(nah62a18\)](#)

ADJOURNMENT

02:02:27 Adjournment: 5:35 P.M.

REP. RALPH HEINERT, Vice Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah62aad.pdf](#))